

### ABSTRACT

A loading device for loading an information carrier into a recording/playback unit is provided. The loading device includes a pair of gripping elements that are actuatable to grip the information carrier therebetween. A transport mechanism moves the gripping elements during the loading of the information carrier. The gripping elements are supported by the transport mechanism for movement relative to the transport mechanism. A control mechanism is provided for actuating the gripping elements when the gripping elements are moved by the transport mechanism.